



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
45th session
Agenda item 5

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CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO MANDATORY INSTRUMENTS

Amendments to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (BCH Code)

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document sets out proposed amendments to the BCH Code. These amendments were approved by MEPC 43 and circulated under cover of Circular letter No. 2211 of 20 March 2000.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 4
<i>Related documents:</i>	MEPC 43/21, BLG 4/18 annexes 11 and 13 and Circular letter No. 2211

Introduction

1 The Committee will recall that, at its forty-third session (28 June to 2 July 1999), it considered and approved the proposed amendments to the BCH Code (MEPC 43/21, paragraphs 8.32 to 8.35).

2 The proposed amendments were circulated by the Secretary-General of the Organization, in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of MARPOL 73/78, under cover of Circular letter No. 2211 of 20 March 2000.

3 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-second session (17 to 26 May 2000), will consider and approve the same amendments to the BCH Code.

Action requested of the Committee

4 The Committee is invited to consider the proposed amendments to the BCH Code, annexed hereto, with a view to their adoption in accordance with article 16(2)(d) of MARPOL 73/78.

ANNEX**RESOLUTION MEPC ... (45)****adopted on ... October 2000****AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SHIPS CARRYING DANGEROUS CHEMICALS IN BULK (BCH CODE)**

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 38(a) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the function of the Committee conferred upon it by international conventions for the prevention and control of marine pollution,

RECALLING ALSO resolution MEPC.20(22) by which it adopted the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (BCH Code),

NOTING article 16 of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (hereinafter referred to as the "1973 Convention") and article VI of the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (hereinafter referred to as the "1978 Protocol") which together specify the amendment procedure of the 1978 Protocol and confer upon the appropriate body of the Organization the function of considering and adopting amendments to the 1973 Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol (MARPOL 73/78),

NOTING that the Maritime Safety Committee, [at its seventy-second session], considered and approved the proposed amendments to the BCH Code,

NOTING FURTHER resolution MEPC...(45), by which the Committee adopted relevant amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code),

RECOGNIZING the need to bring the amendments to the BCH Code into force on the date on which the relevant amendments to the IBC Code enter into force,

HAVING CONSIDERED the proposed amendments to the BCH Code circulated in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of the 1973 Convention,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article 16(2)(d) of the 1973 Convention, amendments to the BCH Code, the text of which is set out at Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article 16(2)(f)(iii) of the 1973 Convention, that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on [1 January 2002], unless prior to the date, not less than one-third of the Parties or the Parties, the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50 per cent of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, having communicated to the Organization their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES the Parties to note that, in accordance with article 16(2)(g)(ii) of the 1973 Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on [1 July 2002] upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;

4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article 16(2)(e) of the 1973 Convention, to transmit to all Parties to the 1978 Protocol certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the annex; and
5. REQUESTS FURTHER the Secretary-General to transmit to the Members of the Organization which are not Parties to the 1978 Protocol copies of the resolution and its Annex.

ANNEX

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION
AND EQUIPMENT OF SHIPS CARRYING DANGEROUS
CHEMICALS IN BULK (BCH CODE)**

CHAPTER II - CARGO CONTAINMENT

2.12 Cargo hoses carried aboard the ship

- 1 Existing section 2.12 is replaced by the following:

"2.12 Ship's cargo hoses

2.12.1 Paragraphs 2.12.2 to 2.12.4 apply to cargo hoses installed on board ships on or after [date of entry into force of amendments] [1 July 2002].

2.12.2 Liquid and vapour hoses used for cargo transfer should be compatible with the cargo carried and suitable for the cargo temperature.

2.12.3 Hoses subject to tank pressure or the discharge pressure of pumps should be designed for a bursting pressure not less than 5 times the maximum pressure the hose will be subject to during cargo transfer.

2.12.4 Each new type of cargo hose, complete with end-fittings, should be prototype-tested at a normal ambient temperature with 200 pressure cycles from zero to at least twice the specified maximum working pressure. After this cycle pressure test has been carried out, the prototype test should demonstrate a bursting pressure of at least 5 times its specified maximum working pressure at the extreme service temperature. Hoses used for prototype testing should not be used for cargo service. Thereafter, before being placed in service, each new length of cargo hose produced should be hydrostatically tested at ambient temperature to a pressure not less than 1.5 times its specified maximum working pressure but not more than two-fifths of its bursting pressure. The hose should be stencilled or otherwise marked with the date of testing, its specified maximum working pressure and, if used in services other than the ambient temperature services, its maximum and minimum service temperature, as applicable. The specified maximum working pressure should not be less than 10 bar gauge."

CHAPTER III - SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND RELATED CONSIDERATION

- 2 Existing paragraph 3.16.11 is replaced by the following:

"3.16.11 The ship should have on board medical first-aid equipment, including oxygen resuscitation equipment and antidotes for cargoes to be carried, based on the guidelines developed by the Organization*."

CHAPTER V - OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3 Existing paragraph 5.3.3 is replaced by the following:

"5.3.3 Officers should be trained in emergency procedures to deal with conditions of leakage, spillage or fire involving the cargo, based on the guidelines developed by the Organization*, and a sufficient number of them should be instructed and trained in essential first aid for cargoes carried."

* Refer to the Medical First Aid Guide for Use in Accidents Involving Dangerous Goods (MFAG), which provides advice on the treatment of casualties in accordance with the symptoms exhibited as well as equipment and antidotes that may be appropriate for treating the casualty.